

THE RECOVERY ACT: OHIO CLOSE UP

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) was created in 1976 to assist low-income families who lacked resources to invest in energy efficiency. Operated in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Native American tribes, and U.S. Territories, Weatherization funds are used to accomplish the mission of WAP, *“To reduce energy costs for low-income families, particularly for the elderly, people with disabilities, and children, by improving the energy efficiency of their homes while ensuring their health and safety.”*

Over 900 local agencies apply energy-efficiency measures to low-income homes using the most advanced technologies and testing protocols available in the housing industry. The resulting energy savings help decrease energy costs for the families and our country’s dependence on foreign oil.

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), signed by President Obama on February 17, 2009, WAP received \$5 billion of funding to expand the current Program and achieve the purposes set forth in the Act. As a result, here is how Weatherization *Works* for Ohio and America!

What does the Recovery Act mean to Ohio?

The Recovery Act will stimulate the state and local economies quickly. Ohio is slated to receive over \$8 billion to invest in public safety, healthcare, infrastructure, education, and energy projects and will save or create more than 130,000 jobs while also helping to protect essential state services that Ohioans rely upon every day.

The **Ohio Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP)** directly benefits from the Recovery Act. The State of Ohio’s Weatherization budget from the Recovery Act is over \$266 million. These additional funds will make a substantial impact for the state and local weatherization program providers. Since July 2009, HWAP has:

- created 1,000 jobs.¹
- purchased 126 vehicles.²
- purchased 142 blower doors.²
- purchased 70 insulation blowing machines.²
- weatherized 5,602 homes.¹

OHIO HOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

	State Allocation	Homes Weatherized
DOE Weatherization Recovery Act Funding ⁴	\$266.78 million	32,180**
Program Year 2009	\$25.17 million	4,697*
Program Year 2008	\$13.68 million	7,073
Program Year 2007	\$12.27 million	6,984

WEATHERIZATION FACTS

Average annual energy cost savings per household ⁵	\$350
Average space heating savings	32%
Energy benefits returned for every \$1 invested ⁵	\$1.67

How is the Recovery Act Stimulating Ohio’s Economy?

The 58 sub-Grantees working throughout Ohio are purchasing locally made products, including vehicles and equipment. One prime example is Krendl, an insulation machine manufacturer based in Delphos, Ohio. Krendl has sold over 60 machines to Ohio Community Action Agencies since March 2009.³

¹ U.S. Department of Energy Preparedness Visit Report, August 2009 and an Ohio Program Update, January 2010.

² Data provided by Economic Opportunity Studies Report, “Ready for Recovery: The Ohio Weatherization Program’s Ramp Up”, June 22, 2009, OP&E Survey, and OACAA Survey.

³ Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies (OACAA) Briefing, September 11, 2009.

⁴ The Recovery Act Funding covers three years, from April 2009 through March 2012.

⁵ ORNL/CON-493, ORNL/CON-484, EIA Annual Energy Outlook for 2009, EIA Short Term Energy Outlook (Feb. 2008).

* Projected Number of Homes Weatherized.

** Projected Number of Homes Weatherized. This projection is based on an increased allowable expenditure per home than in previous years.



A Weatherization crew member checks the insulation around a water heater in a home in Ohio.

For every \$1 invested in the program, Weatherization currently returns \$2.73 to the household and society:

- \$1.67 in reduced energy bills
- \$1.06 in non-energy benefits
 - increased local employment
 - improved housing quality
 - better health and safety

Weatherization also reduces national energy consumption and curbs the demand for imported oil.

Annually, Weatherization decreases the national consumption by the equivalent of 18 million barrels of oil.



Weatherization truly works for Ohio and America!

For more information about the Weatherization Assistance Program, visit:

development.ohio.gov/cdd/ocs/hwap.htm
www.eere.energy.gov/weatherization
www.waptac.org

EERE Information Center
1-877-EERE-INF (1-877-337-3463)
www.eere.energy.gov/informationcenter

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What's Next for Ohio

Over the next three years, Ohio plans to use the allocated Recovery Act dollars to work with its active local agencies to weatherize over 32,000 low- to moderate-income households, train staff, create and retain jobs and generate significant energy savings.

In addition, Ohio is using the Recovery Act funding to expand their training through its **Ohio Weatherization Training Center (OWTC)**, which is operated by the **Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development (COAD)**. The OWTC's mission is to train all field staff in state-of-the-art techniques to identify cost-effective energy efficiency measures that will safely reduce the energy burden in all types of building structures. The OWTC opened four regional training hubs in addition to the main site in Athens, Ohio.

During the summer of 2009, the OWTC trained almost 600 students, which is a tremendous achievement. In past years, it would take the entire year to reach that many students! The OWTC will continue to train as many students as possible to keep up with the need for skilled weatherization crews, auditors, and inspectors.

Local Job Creation

In addition to the 1,000 new jobs established within the Weatherization network, businesses across Ohio are bringing back employees or creating new positions to keep up with the demand created by the influx of Recovery Act dollars.

As a result of the increase in insulation equipment orders from around the country, Krendl had to expand its workforce by 30%. One of Krendl's distributors, Applied Energy Products, Inc., increased its staff by almost 60% and small local businesses, such as Wayne Heating Air Conditioning & Plumbing, are hiring additional help to keep up with the work the company does for a number of the community action programs in Ohio.³

Weatherization Works

Weatherization provides long term solutions to energy and non-energy issues for low-income households. Challenges such as unsafe combustion systems or mold and moisture problems are addressed during the weatherization process when necessary. Addressing both energy and non-energy issues not only improves the efficiency of the home, but the overall quality of life for the residents.